

5.14 Recreation

This analysis focuses on impacts to recreation resources associated with the adoption and implementation of the proposed General Plan, adoption and implementation of the revised Zoning Code and Subdivision Code, and adoption and implementation of the Magnolia Avenue Specific Plan, as these actions have the potential to affect recreation resources. The Citywide Design Guidelines and Sign Guidelines only address site planning, building design and community aesthetics and are thus not considered relevant to this analysis.

Environmental Setting

The City of Riverside categorizes parks and recreational facilities located in the City as listed in **Table 5.14-1**:

**Table 5.14-1
Park and Recreation Facility Types**

Facility Type	Typical Size Range	Typical Features
Pocket Parks	Less than two acres.	Historical features, tot lots, passive park areas and green spaces.
Neighborhood Parks	Approximately ten acres but can be as little as six acres when the site adjoins school facilities.	Similar amenities to pocket parks.
Community Parks	Twenty to thirty acres.	Swimming pools, lighted athletic complexes, community centers, restrooms, parking, group picnic areas and other facilities for organized recreation in addition to those facilities provided by a neighborhood park.
Special Use Park	Any size.	Major sports complexes, golf courses and hobbyist parks. This designation can also include joint-use facilities that are private facilities open for public use in exchange for maintenance by the City.
Regional/Reserve Park	Any size.	Open space or wilderness areas used for hiking, off-road cycling and other selected activities. These parks also support habitat and natural resources conservation.
Signature Park	Any size.	Special historical, natural and/or recreational feature that aids in the definition of the City's image.
County and Other Parks	Any size.	Parks that are owned and operated by the County of Riverside or the State of California.
Joint-Use Facilities	Any size.	Facilities that are available for public use because of joint-use arrangements that the City makes with other public agencies.

Source: City of Riverside Park and Recreation Master Plan Update, 2003.

The 1975 Quimby Act (CGC §66477) authorized cities and counties to pass ordinances requiring that developers set aside land, donate conservation easements or pay park fees for park improvements.

The City of Riverside has 46 developed parks totaling 2,335.9 acres and 9 proposed parks that will total 206.6 acres when developed. Three regional County-owned parks, one reserve and one State park are also available in the City of Riverside for use by residents. **Table 5.14-2** describes parkland in the City, including existing and proposed City-owned resources, and existing and proposed County-owned resources.

Table 5.14-2
Park and Recreation Facilities

Park #	Park Name	Location	Amenities	Acres
City-Owned/Maintained Facilities				
1	Ab Brown Soccer Complex	3700 Placentia Lane	Soccer fields	55.5
2	Agricultural Park	Jurupa Ave. at Van Buren Ave.	Undeveloped	63.2
3	Andulka Park	Chicago Ave. at Central Ave.	Undeveloped	37.9
4	Arlington Park	Van Buren Blvd. at Magnolia Ave.	Lighted basketball courts, tennis courts, covered picnic area, swimming pool, roller hockey court and playground	4.3
5	Bergamont Park	Bergamont Dr. at Cole St.	Basketball court, playground, picnic tables and exercise course	5.0
6	Bobby Bonds Park	University Ave. at Kansas Ave.	Lighted softball field, lighted basketball/tennis courts, sports field, soccer field, social service center, olympic pool, picnic tables, restrooms, child care, indoor gymnasium with weight room and on-site parking	15.1
7	Bordwell Park	MLK Blvd. at Kansas Ave.	Lighted softball field and basketball court, community center, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, restrooms and on-site parking	23.0
8	Boy Scout Camp Site	4785 Indian Hill Road	Undeveloped	2.6
9	Bryant Park	Philbin St. at Van Buren Blvd.	Lighted softball fields and basketball, tennis courts, community center with gymnasium, playground, picnic tables, barbecue, covered picnic areas, and restrooms, child care, social services center and on-site parking	22.1
10	Carlson Park	Buena Vista Dr. at Mission Ave.	Picnic tables and off-leash dog area. Historic site (City entry way)	1.8
11	Castlevue Park	Via Vista Dr. at Century Dr.	Playground and picnic tables	26.6
12	Challen Hill Park	Challen Ave. at Calmhill Dr.	Undeveloped park	34.0
13	Collett Park	Collett Ave. at La Sierra Ave.	Volleyball court, playground, horseshoe pit, picnic tables, and covered picnic areas	5.6
14	Dewey Site	4962 Dewey Avenue	Undeveloped	6.87
15	Don Derr Park	Monroe St. at Lincoln Ave.	Lighted softball fields, basketball court and sports field, soccer field, playground, picnic table, barbecue, covered picnic areas, restrooms, and on-site parking	23.6

**Table 5.14-2
Park and Recreation Facilities**

Park #	Park Name	Location	Amenities	Acres
16	Fairmount Park	Fairmount Blvd. at Market St.	Lighted tennis courts, two playgrounds, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, barbecue, covered picnic areas, and restrooms. Historic site, Boathouse, Izaak Walton Building, Bandshell nine-hole golf course, 50 acre lake system, and fishing and boat launch	191.3
17	Golden Park	Golden Ave. and Campbell Ave.	Undeveloped park	22.0
18	Harrison Park	Harrison St. at Lincoln Ave.	Volleyball court, playgrounds and picnic facilities	6.2
19	Highland Park	Glenhill St. at Sugarloaf St.	Basketball court, two playgrounds, picnic facilities, covered picnic area and on-site parking	7.1
20	Hunt Park	Jackson St. at Garfield St.	Lighted softball field and basketball court, sports field, volleyball court, community center, playground, pool, picnic tables, barbecues, a covered picnic area, skateboard facility, restrooms and on-site parking	13.7
21	Hunter Park	Iowa Ave. at Columbia Ave.	Softball fields, picnic facilities, Riverside Live Steamers, restrooms and on-site parking	45.8
22	Islander Park	Mt. Vernon St. at Big Springs Rd.	Existing community pool with on-site parking and undeveloped park site	40.2
23	Don Jones Park	Jefferson St. at Sycamore Blvd.	Lighted softball and soccer field, picnic tables and restrooms	6.0
24	La Sierra Park	La Sierra Ave. at Gramercy Pl.	Lighted softball fields, basketball and volleyball courts, sports field, community center with gymnasium, playground, picnic facilities, covered picnic area, restrooms and on-site parking	28.1
25	Lincoln Park	Park Ave. at 14th St.	Lighted basketball court, volleyball court, community center, playground, horseshoe pit, picnic tables, barbecue and restrooms	3.7
26	Don Lorenzi Park	Jackson St. at California Ave.	Lighted sports field, restrooms and on-site parking	9.1
27	Loring Park	Buena Vista Dr. at Mission Blvd.	Open space	2.8
28	Low Park	Magnolia Ave. at Arlington Ave.	Picnic facilities	1.2
29	Mt. Rubidoux	Mt. Rubidoux St at 60 Freeway	Open space with rock formations, jogging/running paths, three+ miles of trails and historic site	152.9
30	Mt. Vernon	Blaine St. and Mt. Vernon Ave.	Undeveloped park	8.3
31	Mountain View Park	Wiehe at Cover St.	Basketball court, playground, picnic tables, barbecue and exercise course	5.7
32	Myra Linn Park	Meredith St. at Cook St.	Lighted tennis courts, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area, restrooms and on-site parking	8.5
33	Newman Park	14th St. at Market St.	De Anza Statue - Historic site	0.4

**Table 5.14-2
Park and Recreation Facilities**

Park #	Park Name	Location	Amenities	Acres
34	Nichols Park	Dewey Ave. at Streeter Ave.	Two lighted softball fields, basketball and volleyball courts, and sports field, community center with gymnasium, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, restrooms and on site parking	16.6
35	North Park	Mission Inn Ave. at Vine St.	Historic site with arbor structure	1.4
36	Orange Terrace Community Park	Orange Terrace Pkwy. at Deer Creek	Lighted softball fields, restrooms, playground, picnic shelters and on-site parking	30.0
37	Patterson Park	Linden St. at Ottawa Ave.	Lighted softball field and sports field, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, restrooms and on-site parking	4.6
38	Parent Navel Orange Tree	7101 Magnolia Avenue	Tree and decorative fencing	1.0
39	Rancho Loma Park	Rancho Loma Dr. at Golden Ave.	Basketball court, volleyball court, playground, picnic table, barbecue and covered picnic area	6.5
40	Reid Park	North Orange St. at Columbia Ave.	Lighted softball fields, basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts, lighted sports field, soccer field, community center with gymnasium, playground, pool, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area, restrooms and on-site parking	53.1
41	Riverside Sports Complex	Blaine St. at Canyon Crest Dr.	Lighted softball and sports field, restrooms and on-site parking	17.7
42	Rutland Park	Rutland Ave. at Arlington Ave.	Basketball court, volleyball court, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area and exercise course	8.8
43	Sam Evans Sports Complex	4557 Magnolia Avenue	Sports complex	12.0
44	Shamel Park	Arlington Ave. at Brockton Ave.	Lighted softball field, tennis courts, unlit softball field, playground, pool, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area, restrooms and on-site parking	10.0
45	Streeter Park	Sierra Ave. at Streeter Ave.	Senior and handicapped citizens center with on-site parking	4.6
46	Swanson Park	Glenhaven Ave. at Alessandro Blvd.	Picnic tables	1.2
47	Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park	5300 block of Central	Wilderness reserve, SKR habitat (core reserve) with on-site parking (Central Avenue) and more than three miles of bike and hiking trails	2,100.0
48	Sycamore Highland Park	Fair Isle Dr. at Lochmoor	Undeveloped park	10.5
49	Taft Park	New Ridge Dr. at Mission Grove Pkwy.	Basketball court, tennis court, playground, picnic tables and barbecues	7.0
50	Tequesquite Park	Tequesquite Ave. at Palm Ave.	Undeveloped park	42.9
51	Thundersky Park	Thundersky Cir. at Digger Pine Dr.	Volleyball court, playground, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area and exercise course	12.2

**Table 5.14-2
Park and Recreation Facilities**

Park #	Park Name	Location	Amenities	Acres
52	Dario Vasquez	14th St. at Sedgewick Ave.	Basketball court, playground, and barbecue	1.8
53	Victoria-Cross	Victoria Ave. at Cross St.	Undeveloped park	7.2
54	Villegas Park	Marguerita St. at Washington Ave.	Lighted softball fields, basketball court, sports field, soccer field, community center with gymnasium, playground, pool, picnic tables, barbecues, covered picnic area, restrooms, and on-site parking	18.9
55	Washington Park	Mary St. at Lincoln Ave.	Playground, picnic tables, barbecues, restrooms and on-site parking	4.1
56	White Park	Chestnut St. at Market St.	Senior center, administrative offices and Botanic Garden (historic site)	6.0
Non-city Owned/Maintained Regional Parks and Facilities				
County Parks				
57	Box Springs Mountain Reserve	Pigeon Pass Rd. off Hwy 60, unincorporated Riverside County	Equestrian and hiking trails; interpretive trail	1,155.0
58	Martha McLean Anza Narrows Park	5900 Jurupa Avenue	More than twenty miles of hiking and equestrian trails, picnic areas, fishing lakes and playground	40.0
59	Rancho Jurupa Regional Park	Crestmore Rd. off Mission Blvd.	More than ten miles of hiking and equestrian trails, fishing, horseshoe pits, picnic facilities and campgrounds	350.0
60	Santa Ana River Wildlife Area	Santa Ana River, northwest of City limits	Undeveloped	2,290.74
State Parks/Federal Reserves				
61	California Citrus State Historic Park	Dufferin Ave. one mile east of Hwy 91	Visitor center with gift shop, exhibits, hiking trails, picnic tables, barbeques, restrooms, Sunkist Center, historic site, and small amphitheater with on-site parking	377.0
62	Lake Perris State Recreation Area	17801 Lake Perris Drive	Water skiing, boating, sailing, windsurfing, 5 miles of hiking trails; 12 miles of equestrian and biking trails; campgrounds	8,800.0

Source: Park and Recreation Element, Riverside General Plan, 2004.

Existing trails in the City of Riverside include primary city trails along the Santa Ana River along the northwestern part of the City, through Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park, and along sections of Wood Road, Bradley Street and Washington Street in the southwestern part of the Planning Area; and secondary City trails in the south. Several County and City trails are proposed for development. Most of the trails proposed are located in the south and east areas of the City. **Figure 5-31** shows all recreation resources in the City of Riverside.

The City also owns and operates two public golf courses: Fairmount Municipal Golf Course, a 9-hole golf course, and Riverside Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course. Also within the City are two private golf courses: Canyon Crest Country Club and Victoria Country Club.

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Figure 5-31
Recreation Resources
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In addition to City and County facilities, the City has joint-use agreements with Alvorad Unified School District and Riverside Unified School District, Riverside Community College and University of California Riverside (UCR). These agreements allow resident use of district-owned and/or operated ball fields, tennis courts and swimming pools, as well as the sports complex.

In addition, the City has several community centers which offer recreational, educational and human service activities, as listed in **Table 5.41-3**. Numerous museums and historic and cultural facilities in the City, such as Heritage House, Main Street Pedestrian Mall, Mission Inn and the UCR Botanic Gardens, also offer recreation opportunities.

**Table 5.14-3
Community/Senior/Social Service Centers in Riverside**

Community Center	Address
Bobby Bonds/Cesar Chavez Center	2060 University Ave.
Boardwell Park/Stratton Center	2008 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Arlanza Center/Bryant Park	7950 Philbin Ave.
Renck Center/Hunt Park	4015 Jackson St.
La Sierra Center/La Sierra Park	5215 La Sierra Ave.
Joyce Jackson Center/Nichols Park	5505 Dewey Ave.
Ruth Legis Center/Reid Park	701 N. Orange St.
Janet Goeske Senior/Disabled Center/Streeter Park	5257 Sierra Ave.
Ysmael Villegas Center/Villegas Park	7240 Marguerita Ave.
Dales Senior Center/White Park	3936 Chestnut St.

Thresholds for Determining Level of Impact

For the purpose of this EIR, a significant impact will occur if Project implementation:

- Increases the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; or
- Includes recreational facilities or requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Environmental Impact

Increased Use and Physical Deterioration of Recreation Resources

Development pursuant to Project policies and regulatory standards will result in approximately 38,100 new residential dwelling units and 39,600,000 square feet of non-residential construction in the planning area over the 20-year horizon of the General Plan. The new population resulting from this development may result in increased use of existing City and regional parks, other recreational facilities, and trails that may cause or accelerate substantial physical deterioration of these facilities. This is considered a potentially significant impact.

Demand Assessment

The City of Riverside has adopted a parkland dedication ordinance under the authority of California Government Code § 66477 et seq., also known as the Quimby Act. Under this authority, the City imposes parkland dedication requirements and/or in-lieu fees on new development.

As of 2004, the City's parkland standard is 3 developed acres per 1,000 residents. As shown in **Table 5.14-4**, there is an existing deficit of approximately 113 acres of parkland within the Planning Area when the standard of 3.0 developed acres of parkland per 1,000 residents is applied. If development allowed under the proposed General Plan were to proceed without additional parkland dedication, a deficit of 183 acres of parkland is anticipated at Project build-out.

Table 5.14-4
Future Parks and Recreational Facilities

	Population	Park Acreage Required ^A	Available Acreage from Existing Parkland ^D	Parkland Deficit
Existing	274,071 ^B	822.2	709.5	112.7 acres
Future	376,254 ^C	1,128.8	945.0	183.0 acres

Notes:

A Based on standard of 3.0 developed acres per 1,000 people.

B Existing population as reported by the California Department of Finance, 2003.

C Estimated buildout population of the proposed General Plan.

D Only acreage from City owned developed parkland or parkland proposed to be developed is included in this total. No County or State Parks are included in this total. Open space areas that do not include developed play structures, picnic facilities, sports facilities or restrooms are also not included in the total: Loring Park, Mt. Rubidoux and Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park.

Without the provision of new park and recreational facilities to serve projected new residents, the population increase anticipated over time has the potential to cause increased demand for existing park and recreation facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of existing facilities may occur or be accelerated. Impacts are potentially significant.

In addition to anticipated population-related demand increases, the following Project policies are expected to increase usage and demand on the City's park and recreation facilities, potentially resulting in substantial physical deterioration of facilities and significant impacts.

Policy PF-10.4: Ensure that youth activities and programs are provided or are accessible by all neighborhoods, either in City facilities or through joint-use or cooperative agreements with other service providers.

Policy CCM-10.8: Maximize links between trails and major activity centers, residential neighborhoods, schools, shopping centers and employment centers.

Policy CCM-10.9: Provide adequate connections between elements of Riverside Park.

Policy OS-1.9: Promote open space and recreation resources as a key reason to live in Riverside.

- Policy OS-7.4: Interconnect the Santa Ana River Trail with other parks, cultural and community centers throughout the City through trails and linkages to encourage more pedestrian and bicycle usage and reduce automobile traffic.
- Policy OS-7.7: Explore implementation of the Santa Ana River Task Force's ideas for the five focus areas, such as:
- 1) Work with private interests to develop a restaurant or coffee bar in Fairmount Park near the river with views of the open water impoundment.
 - 2) Establish trail linkages between Mt. Rubidoux and Fairmount Park and generally improve trails in and around the area.
 - 3) Explore the development of water treatment wetlands that can be used for bird watching and improving water quality inputs adjacent to the river course.
 - 4) Recapture the former glory of Fairmount Park as a recreational area. Provide picnic areas, bathrooms and other attractions such as pony rides and carousels.
 - 5) Improve linkages to other parts of the City via an improved walking/biking trail along Market Street and/or Mission Inn Avenue. Improve signage to direct visitors from other parks and other parts of the City to the parkway.
- Policy OS-7.5: Improve the perception of public safety at authorized recreation locations along the river.
- Policy AC-1.5: Continue to develop and support coordinated school district/City arts programs with community centers, museums, libraries and schools.
- Policy AC-2.4: Use community facilities (e.g. parks, schools, community centers, churches, senior centers, libraries) to increase opportunities for visual and performing arts throughout the City.
- Policy AC-2.6: Identify, recognize and support existing concentrations of arts facilities/venues and build upon these concentrations to generate more neighborhood identity and recognition throughout the City.
- Policy AC-4.26: Collaborate on strong joint-use arrangements between the public and private sectors to promote Riverside's arts and cultural events, attract new events and develop more spaces for art and cultural events in the City.
- Policy AC-5.1: Aggressively market Riverside, including the Downtown, as a regional, national and international destination.
- Policy AC-5.3: Encourage the utilization of municipal resources to package and publicize Riverside's rich and diverse offerings of art and cultural facilities and programs.

- Policy AC-5.7: Promote Riverside's arts and cultural attractions to attract businesses and employees to Riverside.
- Policy AC-5.10: Market the programs like the Downtown Riverside Art Walk to bring people into Downtown, and increase cross promotion and partnering with local businesses, restaurants and shops for this event.
- Policy PR-2.1: Integrate public transportation routes when locating regional reserve parks, community parks and community centers.
- Policy PR-2.5: Develop more recreational opportunities for the secondary trail and pedestrian system in Riverside. Opportunities could include walk-a-thons, 10K-and-over runs, triathlons and bike races.
- Policy PR-3.1: Consider the needs of all age groups, abilities, disabilities and special interest groups in park, recreation and community services planning and design.

Construction or Expansion of Recreational Facilities

Project implementation does not directly include or require the construction or expansion of facilities whose construction might have adverse environmental impacts. The City's Park and Recreation Master Plan, adopted by the City in 2003, set forth a program of park and recreation development and improvement plans; this Master Plan underwent program-level CEQA review in its adoption. The implementation of open space and recreation plans that result in the construction of new facilities could potentially result in significant impacts in the areas of traffic, noise, or visual impacts. However, existing City programs for project design and approval as well as the CEQA environmental review process require that such potential impacts be addressed prior to construction of new facilities. Therefore, impact will be less than significant.

General Plan policies propose maintenance, enhancement and continued funding for existing facilities. None of these policies would result in the substantial increase in demand for parks or facilities, create the need for more parks in underserved areas of the City, or result in the removal of a neighborhood park or open space area. Rather, implementation of these policies will allow for the development of new facilities over time.

Adherence to and/or implementation of the following policies will help ensure that adequate facilities are provided in each neighborhood so that physical deterioration of park facilities is minimized as population increases:

- Policy PR-1.1: Implement the policies of the City of Riverside Park and Recreation Master Plan. Revise the neighborhood/community park ratio standard to two acres of community park and one acre of neighborhood park per one thousand residents.
- Policy PR-1.2: Distribute recreational facilities equally throughout Riverside's neighborhoods.

- Policy PR-1.3: Encourage private development of recreation facilities that complement and supplement the public recreational system.
- Policy PR-1.4: Work with the County in sphere areas to require sites for parks as an integral component for new residential development, particularly in Riverside's Sphere of Influence.
- Policy PR-1.5: Locate parks adjacent to compatible use areas, such as residential uses, greenbelts, bicycle corridors, schools and natural waterways to minimize the negative impacts of adjacent land uses.
- Policy PR-2.3: Improve and create more connections and increase the safety of the bicycling, equestrian and pedestrian trail system within the City.
- Policy PR-2.4: Create a primary trail loop to connect signature parks, county and state open spaces and parks.
- Policy PR-2.6: Provide greater amenities and access points and trail hubs. Including identification and directional signs, marked parking stalls, water facilities for equestrians, cyclists and pedestrians, hitching posts, shade and trash receptacles. Additional amenities at trail hubs could include picnic tables and rest rooms.
- Policy OS-1.2: Establish an open space acquisition program that identifies acquisition area priorities based on capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, accessibility, needs, resource preservation, ability to complete or enhance the existing open space linkage system and unique environmental features.
- Policy OS-1.11: Develop a program for City acquisition of identified open space land and encourage land donations or the dedication of land in lieu of park fees for the acquisition of usable land for public parks, open space and trail linkages.
- Policy OS-1.12: Ensure that areas acquired as part of the Open Space System are developed, operated and maintained to provide the City with a permanent, publicly accessible open space system.
- Policy OS-7.1: Focus river improvements on the following areas: Fairmount Park and Mt. Rubidoux, Tequesquite Avenue and the Old Landfill, Martha McLean Park, Van Buren Bridge and the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area.
- Policy OS-7.2: Give initial priority to the Fairmount Park wetlands enhancement project and the completion of the Santa Ana River Trail.
- Policy CCM-10.1: Ensure the provision of bicycle facilities consistent with the Bicycle Master Plan.
- Policy CCM-10.2: Incorporate bicycle and pedestrian trails and bicycle racks in future development projects.

Policy CCM-10.7: Maintain an extensive trails network that supports bicycles, pedestrians and horses and is linked to the trails systems of adjacent jurisdictions.

Policy AC-6.2: Expand access to all museum resources from the Downtown area to include the entire Riverside community.

Policy AC-7.1: Create a contemporary museum for Riverside through construction of a didactic facility that mirrors Riverside's cultural and natural history while providing authentic, tangible, educational resources for all Riversiders.

Policy PF-10.1: Provide every neighborhood with easy access to recreation and service programs by decentralizing community centers and programs. Promote the development of shared facilities and satellite offices in each Riverside neighborhood.

In addition to these policies, the continuation of numerous ongoing City standards and practices will provide for improvements to existing park facilities and expansion of new park facilities as new developments are proposed.

- Implement CEQA during the development review process; including the development of recreational facilities. Analyze development proposals for potential impacts to City parks and recreation facilities and services, including pedestrian and hiking/biking/equestrian trails. Analyze impacts of proposed recreational facilities upon other resources. Ensure impacts are mitigated to the maximum extent practicable.
- Require payment of park fees, dedication of land for parks and/or dedication and provision of new multi-use trails as conditions of new development as applicable and allowable by State law (Quimby Act).
- Implement and update as necessary the City's Park and Recreation Master Plan.
- Require that future Specific Plans, subdivisions and other major development projects demonstrate consistency with the City's Park and Recreation Master Plan
- Seek dedications or contributions towards new community facilities from developers.
- Periodically reassess community facilities to update conditions City-wide.
- Periodically review and update the City's Trails Master Plan and Bikeways Master Plan. The Master Plan shall identify existing and planned pedestrian/hiking trails and bicycle routes to all community and regional parks, major educational, employment, shopping and other significant activity centers to enhance their accessibility.

If no additional developed recreation facilities are created by the time buildout of the General Plan occurs, population increase and associated increased use of recreation resources will accelerate deterioration of the existing and currently proposed resources in the City. Several policies in the Project promote the use of recreational facilities in the City.

Other policies provide guidance that are intended to offset potential deterioration of recreation facilities.

Policies listed on page 5.12-12 are intended to ensure that adequate park and recreation facilities are provided across the City so that the physical deterioration of park facilities is minimized as population increases. The following additional policies specifically aim to offset potential impacts to park and recreation facilities from ongoing and anticipated usage.

- Policy OS-7.3: Preserve and expand open space along the Santa Ana River to protect water quality, riparian habit and recreational uses.
- Policy PR-2.2: Implement the revisions to the City's trails system as identified in the 2003 Park and Recreation Master Plan.
- Policy PR-3.2: Establish programs that allow local residents and neighborhood organizations to "adopt" and take pride in protecting and maintaining local parks.
- Policy PR-3.3: Continue to work with the Office of Neighborhoods and hold planning meetings at the neighborhood level to review, evaluate and adopt designs for new park and recreation facilities.
- Policy PR-3.4: Periodically review the City's existing community center programs and infrastructure to ensure that the facilities are safe and adequately meet the need of the neighborhood served.
- Policy PR-3.5: Continue to promote community awareness and stewardship of parks, open spaces and trails through activities such as the Adopt-A-Park program, public outreach and education, beautification projects, neighborhood watch and other special events.

With adherence to and the implementation of Project policies as well as the continuation of City standards and practices, the City will preserve its existing park areas and seek to expand park and recreational opportunities. In addition to preserving and expanding City-owned facilities, the Project includes policies intended to create and improve nearby County and regional recreational facilities, such that park and recreational opportunities are expanded. However, the City presently does not meet its own acreage standard for City-owned, developed parkland; even if all currently undeveloped parks are developed by Project build-out, the City will still fail to meet its acreage standard. Table 5.14-4 projects a developed parkland deficit of 183 acres by 2025.

Although a parkland deficit is forecast, the deficit is relatively small and is offset by several important factors. As noted in Table 5.14-4, parkland that merely serves as open space, such as Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park, Loring Park and Mt. Rubidoux are excluded from the computation of "developed parkland," as they lack such recreation facilities as picnic tables and campgrounds. This exclusion relates only to the City's own implementation of the parkland dedication requirement, not to any specific language in the Quimby Act itself. The City could conceivably change its definition of "parkland" to allow natural open space areas to be included in parkland calculations.

Each of these open space areas provides significant recreation opportunities, mostly in the form of hiking trails and quiet areas for rest and relaxation. Each of the facilities are popularly used and help satisfy City demand for park and recreation facilities. If the acreage of these facilities were allowed to be counted as parkland, the City would far exceed the standard of 3.0 acres per person.

Further, the City of Riverside is proximate to a number of County park and recreation facilities that are used by Riverside residents. These include Box Springs Mountain Reserve, Martha McLean Anza Narrows Park, and Rancho Jurupa Regional Park. Moreover, a prominent aspect of the Project is a series of policies focused on making significant recreational improvements to both City and county owned areas along the Santa Ana River. Implementation of the proposed improvements would significantly contribute to the City's and County's inventory of developed parkland.

Collectively, the combination of Project features, City standards and practices, the use of large open space areas for recreational facilities, and the proximity of County park and recreational facilities will provide ample recreational opportunities for Riverside residents such that Project related population growth will lead to increases in park usage, but not foreseeably so significant that significant deterioration can be anticipated. Impact is less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is required at a programmatic level. The potential environmental effects of construction and operation of new park facilities will be evaluated when new park facilities are proposed as required under CEQA.

Level of Impact after Mitigation

Impact will be less than significant.

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